

HOW ITALIANS, HEIRS OF PROUD RACE, CLIMB TO DAZZLING SUCCESS IN U. S.

Valentino Only One Example of Racial Genius

Why do Italians make good Americans?

What is there about the sons of that virile race that brings them up the ladder of life?

Ten years ago—Ellis Island—a poor, friendless, unknown, penniless Italian youth.

This particular Italian boy went from the abject want and poverty of park benches to the towering heights of the tinsel and glittering world of make-believe.

Rudolph Valentino, whose death caused a world to mourn. The poor Italian boy who had ridden across the desert sands of Arabia into fame and fortune and the hearts of a million homes.

Why?

It is a momentous question, so vital, so important that The GRAPHIC has asked James Craig Gordon to analyze the secrets of dramatic success of Italy's sons. The first of his series of articles on this timely subject appears below.—[Editor GRAPHIC.]

By JAMES CRAIG GORDON

There are more Italians in the city of New York than in any city in Italy.

New York is the first Italian city of the world.

The great Italian cities are Naples, Milan and Rome.

Naples has a population of more than 780,000; Milan contains 718,304; Rome has 689,460.

Greater New York is said to contain approximately 1,000,000 Italians.

To every one who is interested in the development of America, and what has come to be termed "100 per cent. Americanism," this represents a problem of startling significance.

Will these 1,000,000 Italians become desirable American citizens?

This question is often asked in certain quarters because of strong ideas that are held about Italians as immigrants.

Why Italians Come Here

It has been said, long ago, that the average Italian came to the United States solely to make money with which he could return to his native land. The statistics of money earned here and remitted to Italy by unnaturalized Italians have been quoted in terms intended to be staggering.

It has been pointed out that the Italians have clustered into huge, foreign colonies where European standards of sanitation and living conditions generally prevailed.

It has been stated that only the worst class of Italians come here, and most of these had come here for no other reason than to save money by un-American methods of living, and then, later to return to the shores of the Mediterranean.

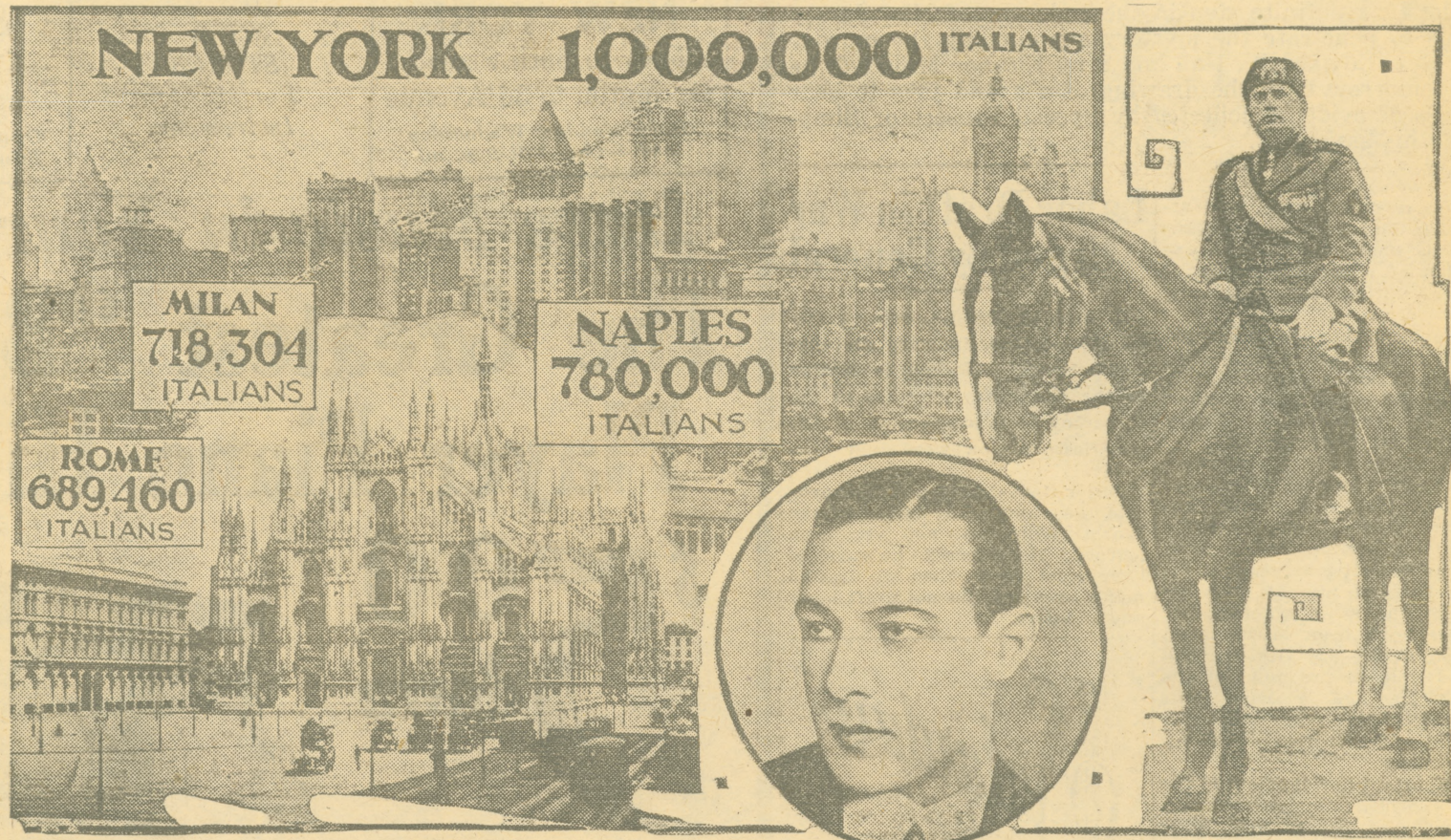
These are old criticisms. Recently there has come a new criticism.

Rise of Mussolini

In Rome there is now a "strong man" government.

The voice of Benito Mussolini has resounded far beyond his native land—has echoed through all the capitals of the world—and has troubled the ears of many careful students of law, of order and the established ways of our times.

Mussolini, a dramatic meteor of modern Italian history—Mussolini, the living and breathing idol of the Facismo—Mussolini, the "man on horseback," with lifted sword—Mussolini, in whose eyes glow the glory and the grandeur that once



WORLD'S GREATEST ITALIAN CITY is New York, with 1,000,000 of that race living within its boundaries, nearly twice the population of either Rome, Naples or Milan, the largest cities of Italy. And these Italian-Americans become good citizens of their adopted country. Follow The GRAPHIC articles and learn how they win fame and success, spurred on by such dazzling examples as Benito Mussolini (above), dictator of Italy, and the late Rudolph Valentino (inset). The one, son of a blacksmith, is now the outstanding Italian of his time in his native land. The other, coming to America as a gardener, fought his way to an enviable position of fame as the "great lover" of the motion picture world.

were Rome, has sounded a new note in world affairs.

Mussolini has uttered the fervent cry of Nationalism!

He has sung the song of the Sinn Fein in the Latin tongue!

His is the voice that cries: "Italy for the Italians."

He is the great "100 per cent. Italian."

Mussolini's Call

Across the seas his thundering voice reverberates, echoing in the hearts of many of the millions of Italians who have left their native shores to find their living in the United States, not only, but along the other main currents of immigration from north and south Italy to France, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, North Africa and the Argentine.

He has called upon them not to let their love for Italy die.

Italy's Proud Heritage

He has reminded them that theirs is the blood of the conquering Caesars; their ancestors who drove their horses and chariots triumphantly down all the highways of the world until it became a fact that "all roads lead to Rome."

He has reminded them that they are the sons and the daughters of a high estate—that they are of the flesh and the bone of Dante, of Michael Angelo, of Raphael, of Da Vinci, of Columbus, of Galileo, and of all the other great names of which Italy, the mother of modern art and literature and music, is proud.

No matter where an Italian is, Mussolini has proclaimed he is still an Italian.

More than that, there came recently from his ancient capital, the statement that plans were under way by which his government would reach out across the seas and keep in constant touch with its immigrant children.

Fascism's Aims

This was to be done by the erection and maintenance of Fascist playgrounds, recreation centers, cultural centers, in the great cities where there were many Italians.

Many regarded this project with grave alarm. They said, no foreign government had the right to adopt

such a course, and that America, for one, should not permit it, because, however innocent its intentions might be said to be, such recreation and cultural centers would soon become focal points for propaganda for the spirit of Fascism in the United States of America.

There is already a Fascist organization in New York city. Moreover, it has been stated in the public papers that orders for black

shirts—the badge of Fascism—have been placed with manufacturers.

Americans Puzzled

Any American may well ask himself what this means.

We have 1,000,000 Italians in New York city alone.

How good Americans are they?

How many of them expect to amass a competence, or what would be a competence according to European standards, and then re-

turn to their native towns?

How many of them intend to spend their lives in this, the land of their adoption?

And, what is more important, what do they think of Mussolini?

How much of their loyalty can he command?

Have they one foot in New York and the other in Rome?

How much power does Musso-

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